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Question Time: Daylight Saving Time begins again

What is your opinion of DST?

By Rob Burgess
Tribune night editor

[**Editor's note**: To participate in future queries, keep an eye on our Twitter and Facebook accounts.]

Well, it's here whether you're ready or not. Daylight Saving Time began at 2 a.m. Sunday, which means clocks sprang forward an hour. (You'll get that hour back at 2 a.m. Nov. 2 when we fall back.) While most of the rest of country has been dealing with DST since the 1970s, Indiana was one of the few holdouts for decades. That all changed in 2005, when then Gov. Mitch Daniels signed Senate Bill 127, which made Indiana the 48th state to observe DST starting April 2, 2006. Nearly a decade later, the debate remains heated. So, we wanted to know: "What's your opinion of DST?" We had a lot of answers this week, so in an effort to include more we've tweaked the Question Time format again.

Approve – 19 votes (21.1 percent)

“I loved it when I lived there, now the only bad thing is I will be 3 hours behind.” — **Ginger Prince Bell**

“I love it.” — **Julie Littrell**

“Love it. Daylight later.” — **Helen Perry**

Disapprove – 71 votes (78.9 percent)

“Time doesn’t ‘change.’ We are arbitrarily changing what time we say it is, which seems pointless. … If you want more daylight, get up earlier!” — **Beth Robbins Gould**

“I hate that now that we are starting to see some daylight in the morning we are forced back into the darkness of January mornings.” — **Larry A. Barnhart**

“Hate it. It accomplishes absolutely nothing.” — **Greg Carter**

Our answers

“I love it! Longer days to do a lot more during the endless summer.” — **Nancy Barth**

“Do you really want to open that can of worms?

1. We have Daylight Saving Time because Mitch Daniels had an inferiority complex that East Coast people didn’t know squat about Indiana except that from time to time they’d make fun of it as the place where they don’t use DST instead of usually making fun of it as flyover territory. In truth, people from the East Coast … have no concept of Indiana whatsoever. That Indiana is home to about 6 million people and at about the edge of the upper third of electoral votes is news to suits out East. But that really gets the goat of people like Daniels, who would wear a folksy blue button down when dealing with the citizens here, and speak in a fake homespun accent. Daniels and the other turkeys forced DLS through without a referendum or consulting the people. They knew they’d have been smacked down if they’d taken it to the people.

2. I hate it. Frankly if we’re gonna do anything I’d rather just be on Central Time. We are currently on DST for more than six months of the year. Why don’t we just stop switching to it and just set the whole … country an hour different and stay there forever? If getting more daylight is so [great] then just adjust time like that all the time.

3. One country, one time zone. The whole having to convert anything is

stupid and just causes mistakes. JUST TODAY THE AP FED ME THE WRONG TIME ON THE BUTLER GAME because they read 8 p.m. for a game in Chicago and then put 8 p.m. on the Indiana budget. Nope. It's a 9 p.m. game and any paper in Indiana planning on getting that game in better realize when the game actually tips. ONE COUNTRY, ONE TIME ZONE. It's the only thing the Chinese do right. Everybody imagines when I tell them this that it'd be insane. What, are L.A. people going to get up hours before the sun and not have the sun set until they go to bed? Nope. They'll do things exactly as seems to make sense to them, and if that means starting the work day at 11 a.m. fine. No time conversions necessary, no worries whether you know what time zone Paducah or Topeka are on. Just say: 'When do you get to work?' Or: 'What time should the truck arrive?' Bam. No problems." — **Pedro Velazco**

"I've written about this before, but I still dislike DST. The change in 2005 is just one of the things I will never forgive Mitch Daniels for." — **Rob Burgess**

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